

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 01311 111541Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ICAE-00 INR-10 /021 W
-----089389 111543Z /46

P 111155Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO USICA WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4519

UNCLAS CONAKRY 1311

USICA

FOR ECA/IV, ICA/AF

STATE FOR AF/W J. LEWIS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS:
SUBJECT: IV GRANT: MINISTER MAMADI KEITA

REF: (A) CONAKRY 1266, (B) USICA 14785-U

1. POST GRATEFULLY ACCEPTS OFFER FOR ARRANGEMENT OF KEITA
PROGRAM BY OVERSEAS LIAISON COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN COUNCIL
ON EDUCATION.

2. KEITA HAS TOLD AMBASSADOR TODAY PROFESSIONAL TRAINING HIS
CHIEF PREOCCUPATION, SO OLC CAPABILITY TAILORED TO NEED.
MINISTER AT PRESENT UNSURE HOW LONG BUSINESS WITH WORLD BANK
WILL TAKD, PROMISED TO INFORM EMBASSY ASAP. EARLIER ESTIMATE
HERE WAS THREE TO FIVE DAYS.

3. KEITA REACTED FAVORABLY TO SUGGESTIONS THAT HE VISIT ATLANTA
UNIVERSITY OMPLEX, OR UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA'S CHAPEL
HILL-RALEIGH COMPLEX, WHICH IS STRONG ON AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION
SCHOOLS. MINISTER ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN VISITING FACULTIES
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WHICH MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN SISTER RELATIONSHIP WITH
FACULTIES OF NATIONAL UNIVERSITY IN CONAKRY.

4. BECAUSE MINISTER AT PRESENT UNABLE TO DETERMINE PRECISE
DURATION OF WORLD BANK ACTIVITIES, POST WILL KEEP IN TOUCH
WITH HIM AND SUPPLY ASAP NECESSARY INFO ON PROGRAMMING DATES,
LENGTH OF STAY. PROJECTED ARRIVAL DAY IN U.S. JULY 15.

5. SINCE TIME AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAMMING WILL BE LIMITED IN ANY CASE, POST RECOMMENDS THAT ITINERARY BE HELD TO EAST COAST. BESIDES UNIVERSITIES ALREADY SUGGESTED, POST BELIEVES EXPOSURE TO AT LEAST ONE VIGOROUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE WOULD BE DESIRABLE BECAUSE OF PARALLELS TO TWO-TIER GUINEAN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM IN FIELDS OF MEDICINE, ENGINEERING UNDER WHICH LOWER CYCLE PROVIDES TECHNICIANS, UPPER GOES ON TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONALS. EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON PRAGMATIC TRAINING RATHER THAN HUMANITIES OR CULTURAL EMBELLISHMENT. AS NOTED IN REFTEL A, KEITA INTERESTED CONFERRING AID OFFICIALS ON GUINEAN AGRICULTURAL PROJECT, WHICH IS LARGELY EDUCATIONAL IN THRUST.

6. ALTHOUGH KEITA IN PAST HAS BEEN CRITICAL OF LAWLESSNESS HE PROFESSES TO SEE RAMPANT IN AMERICAN CITIES, POST BELIEVES THAT EXPOSURE TO MAJOR URBAN UNIVERSITY COULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS IF CAREFULLY SELECTED AND TOUR ARRANGED TO STRESS POSITIVE ASPECTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR URBAN STUDENTS OF LIMITED MEANS. HOWARD, NYU, TEMPLE MIGHT BE POSSIBILITIES.

7. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA: BORN SANANKORO, KOUROUSSA, APRIL 6, 1936. MARRIED. HAS A DEGREE IN PHILOSOPHY AND WAS FORMERLY A PROFESSOR.

8. KEITA HAS TRAVELLED REGULARLY TO THE SOVIET UNION, INCLUDING SEVERAL TRIPS IN THE PAST YEAR. HE TRAVELLED TO UNCLASSIFIED

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US IN JUNE 1977 AS MEMBER OF GUINEAN HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION HEADED BY PRIME MINISTER LANSANA BEAVOGUI. HE HAS ALSO TRAVELLED IN FRANCE, AND SWITZERLAND.

9. HIS PRESENT RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE: MEMBER OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF RULING PDG PARTY, MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE'S TOP LEVEL POLITICAL BUREAU. MINISTER OF DOMAIN OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE, WHICH INCLUDES A CHAIRMANSHIP OF COMMITTEE DECIDING ON EVERY STUDENT AND GRANTEE WHO LEAVES GUINEA TO STUDY OR VISIT IN ANOTHER COUNTRY.

10. IN THE PAST HE HAS SERVED, WITHIN THE PDG, AS DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR PARTY CADRES, DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL POLITICAL BUREAU. WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT HE HAS BEEN SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE PEOPLE'S ARMY, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NATIONAL EDUCATION, DIRECTOR OF THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF KANKAN (ONE OF THE TWO NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES).

HE HAS ALSO SERVED AS A DEPUTY IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH MOVEMENT HE WAS EXPELLED FROM FRANCE AND SUBSEQUENTLY CARRIED ON THE SAME

FUNCTION IN SWITZERLAND. HE ALSO SERVED IN THE RANKS OF
GOVERNMENT PRODUCTION COMMITTEE AT BOTH THE TECHNICAL SCHOOL
AND THE UNIVERSITY IN CONAKRY.

11. POST IS ENDEAVORING TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL BIO-MATERIAL
WITH FIRM DATES FROM MINISTER'S OFFICE.

12. WILL ADVISE AS FURTHER INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.

13. STATE FOR AF/W: YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET FROM IBRD MORE
QUICKLY AN ESTIMATE OF LENGTH OF TIME THEY EXPECT WILL BE
REQUIRED FOR MEETINGS WITH MAMADI KEITA AND SIGNATURE OF
TEACHERS TRAINING FACILITY AGREEMENT. YOUR INFORMING OLC AND
US OF THIS SHOULD EXPEDITE DEVELOPMENT OF PLANS FOR KEITA'S
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IV GRANT. HALPINE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN LEADER EXCHANGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Number: 1978CONAKR01311
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780283-0812
Format: TEL
From: CONAKRY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780776/aaaactlp.tel
Line Count: 137
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: db06cf77-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 CONAKRY 1266
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2056907
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IV GRANT: MINISTER MAMADI KEITA
TAGS: SCUL, GV, US, (KEITA, MAMADI)
To: ICA STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/db06cf77-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014